

VOLUME 42.

ELBA, ALABAMA, THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 1939

NUMBER 43

SPECIAL SESSION OF  
LEGISLATURE ENDS;  
GOVERNOR PLEADED

MONTGOMERY, Apr. 5.—Having voted to submit five Dixon-proposed constitutional amendments at a July 11 election, the special session of the Legislature adjourned sine die yesterday at 12:15 p.m., after one of the briefest sessions on record.

The Legislature will reconvene in regular session July 18.

Governor Dixon expressed gratification over the "unselfish attitude" of the lawmakers. The Legislature acted favorably on five of the amendments. The Governor wished submitted, refused to submit two others and overrode his wishes in making the State instead of the counties pay for the \$100,000 election.

Alabama voters on July 11 will either ratify or reject these five amendments to the State constitution.

1. Empowering the Legislature to set up a modern pardon and parole system.

2. Permitting county option use of voting machines. (Mobile and Jefferson are the only counties expected to adopt them in the near future.)

3. Requiring biennial (not to start until 1943) instead of quadrennial legislative sessions.

4. Permitting investment of trust funds in securities guaranteed by the Federal government.

5. Authorizing felons—except in capital cases—to waive grand jury action when they wish to plead guilty in order to begin serving sentences at once, though not before a 15-day period.

The biennial sessions amendment is the only one of the quintet expected to encounter rough going. It appears now the other four will be ratified easily. Governor Dixon has said he would take the stump in support of the amendments in their passage became doubtful.

As a surprise to no-one, the Legislature made short shift of the low-cost poll tax and reapportionment amendments. Some supporters of the amendments had reproached Governor Dixon for not fighting for these two more energetically, while informed participants, pro and con, have recognized the odds were hopeless.

The Senate yesterday passed the voting machine amendment bill 21 to 1. The House passed the amendment regulating trust fund investment, 73 to 1. The lone dissenter was Senator Herbert Conway of Marshall and Representative C. C. Peacock of Coffee.

Sine die adjournment at 12:15 p.m. closed one of the shortest extra sessions on record. It started March 16, and administrationists estimated it had cost approximately \$25,000, compared with expenses of more than \$100,000 incurred by other special sessions in recent years.

SEEKS RELATIVE OF MAN  
FORMERLY LIVING HERE

An attorney in Stockton, Calif., representing the Public Administrator of San Joaquin County, has written a letter to the Chief of Police of Elba seeking information about the relative of a family who lived in or near Elba nearly twenty years ago. The information is desired in the winding up of an estate, and if any relatives are still living in this country they should be notified.

So that our readers may have a better understanding of the circumstances, we are printing below a portion of the letter written to the Chief of Police here:

"Dear Sir:

"We are desirous of getting in touch with the relatives of one Herbert J. Robe, who are entitled to inherit from his estate. In his possession, at the time of his death, was found an article which appears to have been printed November 21, 1920, in some newspaper, referring to the death of William Frank Robe, a former Supervisor, who died near Elba. In this newspaper clipping it would appear that Mr. Robe left surviving a son and daughter by his first marriage, namely, the deceased here, Herbert J. Robe, and Miss Nellie M. Robe of Elba, and a son and three daughters by his second marriage, namely, Guy H. Robe of Elba, Mrs. A. M. McIlroy of Wilson, and Mrs. W. J. Warner and Miss Florence D. Robe of Buffalo.

"Mr. Robe died here a week or ten days ago. He lived alone and was found dead and his body was in such a condition that it was necessary to immediately call an internment therefor. He had a little house and a lot where he lived and a little money in bank deposits."

If any Clipper readers know any members of this family they will be conferring a favor on them to tell them about this letter, and the efforts that are being made to find them. And if any relatives should be located direct them to call on or communicate with Mr. W. W. Ham, Clerk, at the City Hall in Elba and instructions contained in the letter from the Stockton attorney will be given them.

DEATH OF JOEL GATLIN  
OCCURS IN ENTERPRISE

Friends throughout the county were deeply grieved at the passing of Mr. Joel Gatlin, age 58, well known farmer of the Zion Chapel community, whose death occurred at the Enterprise hospital Friday night, March 24th. He had been ill for several days.

Mr. Gatlin was a native of Coffee County and for many years resided near Elba. For the past several years he has lived near Zion Chapel. He had six or seven children, Pete, Dick, Mary, Ben and Eva Pearl Gatlin, and a number of other relatives. Funeral services were held at Zion Chapel Church Saturday morning, March 25, at ten o'clock and were conducted by Mrs. Ethel Jacobs. The body was laid to rest in the Zion Chapel cemetery. Searcy had charges.

ZION CHAPEL SINGING

Sacred Harp singers met at Zion Chapel Community building last Sunday afternoon for their regular singing. There was a good crowd present and the singing was fine. Leaders for the afternoon were:

J. J. Deal, Bill Scarborough, J. M. Donaldson, A. J. Fuller, H. W. Dean, J. J. Sanders, W. M. Mathews, T. P. Sanders, L. C. Cook, Cody Bragg, W. C. Barr, L. N. Phillips, U. B. Hudson, Rufus Wilson, A. W. Mathews, E. A. Lowery, Ezra Kelley, J. V. Wise, A. L. Miles and E. A. Wilks.

This singing is held every first Sunday afternoon and all singers are invited.

Malcolm Mathis of Maxwell Field, Montgomery, spent several days here this week with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Mathis.

Following the program delicious refreshments were served by the hostesses.—Reporter.

ROME ECONOMICS CLASSES  
HAVE UNIQUE PARTY

Members of the home economics classes of Elba High School gave a "measuring party" at the City Hall on Wednesday night, March 29. Games and stunts were directed by Miss Eunice Graham. Joe Morrow Prescott received the prize for having the longest feet.

At the conclusion of the games refreshments were served by members of the classes. About 40 students enjoyed this event.

Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Marley of Dothan were guests of relatives and friends in Elba Thursday.

COUNTY'S FARMERS  
CAUTIONED ABOUT  
PLANTING TOO MUCH

Cotton farmers of Coffee County are this week receiving a notice from County Agent Hugh D. Sexton, setting forth the penalties for over-planting on cotton acreage. All farmers have been notified of their allotment and it is very important that they stay within this acreage.

Below we are reproducing the notice that has been sent out by Mr. Sexton:

Dear Coffee County Producer:

Wait to take this opportunity to impress upon you the importance of planting within your 1939 cotton acreage allotment.

If you plant above your 1939 cotton acreage allotment this year you WILL NOT receive a 1939 Cotton Price Adjustment payment by overplanting cotton this year you also stand a chance to lose your 1939 Conservation payment and to pay a tax of 3c a pound on the cotton you produce above your Marketing Quota.

Very truly yours,

HUGH D. SEXTON, Secy.  
Coffee County A. C. A.

MISS BULLOCK HOSTESS TO  
MISSIONARY CIRCLE

The Business and Professional Women's Circle of the Baptist Missionary Union held an interesting meeting for its April mission program in the home of Miss Nora Bullock on Sumner Street Monday evening at seven-thirty. Bowls of colorful petunias, ragged robins and verbena were attractively arranged in decoration in the living room.

Miss Mabel Brunson, leader, opened the meeting with the Lord's Prayer. Following by the scripture lesson "Nothing But the Blood of Jesus," followed by the offering. The meeting was closed by Mrs. J. A. Timmerman.

The subject of the program was "The Response of Latin America to the Great Commission," and different phases of the mission work in countries of South America were discussed by Miss Brunson.

Miss Zedie Rowe, Miss Carrie Vaughn, Miss Hazel Busbee, Miss Baxter Bryan, Miss Kayron Campbell and Mrs. Mary Alice Mays.

Miss Brunson made the closing prayer.

A short business session was presided over by the president. Roll call and minutes of the last meeting were read and treasurer's report made by Mrs. Baxter Bryan, secretary-treasurer. Mrs. Kendrick's report of an investigation for special personal service work to be undertaken by the circle was made and a cash donation was made to the work.

Miss Kayron Campbell invited the circle to meet with her for the April 17 meeting, in the home of Mrs. F. P. Clark.

Miss Bullock served a delicious salad plate with food drink during the social hour to the following members: Mrs. Ole Willis, Mrs. H. L. Martin, Miss Kayron Campbell, Miss Mabel Brunson, Mrs. Baxter Bryan, Mrs. Mary Alice Mays, Mrs. J. A. Timmerman, Miss Carrie Vaughn, Miss Hazel Busbee and Miss Zedie Rowe.

MARTIN HOME IS SCENE  
OF MUSIC CLUB MEETING

The Music Appreciation Club met Thursday in the home of Mrs. R. L. Martin with Mrs. Ardell Bradley and Nell Young as hostesses. After a short business session, the following program was given:

Paderewski's Last Visit to the United States—Jule Bradley.

Vladimir Galschman, St. Louis Symphony Conductor—Margaret Edmondson.

Discussion of the Piano—Thelma Banks.

The Player Piano—Nell Young.

The Place of Music in Life—Martha Ham.

The Lives of Famous Composers—Martha Edmondson.

Selections from Schubert and Chopin—Mrs. Bradley.

Following the program delicious refreshments were served by the hostesses.—Reporter.

FLOR DE LIS CLUB MET  
MONDAY EVENING

The Fleur de Lis Club met Monday night with Marguerite Edmondson and Dorothy Spurlin, in the Edmondson home. The meeting was called to order by the president and a short business session was held. The following program was introduced by Nell Rowe:

Life and Works of Millet—Agnes Pinckard.

Life and Works of Watteau—Nell Rowe.

Sketch of Life and Works of Important French Composers—Martha Mullins.

French Sports and Amusements—Olene Taylor.

At the conclusion of the program, games in French were enjoyed by the club members.

A delicious salad plate and food drink were then served by the hostesses to the following: Jeanne Brunson, Martha Mullins, Nell Rowe, Olene Taylor, Martha Ham, Corinne Bonneau, Agnes Pinckard, Catherine Brunson, Sara Young, Annie Laurie Taylor, James Martin, Clady Whitman and Mrs. Roberta Childs.—Reporter.

MILL LOSS

Last week in writing of Mr. Courtney Whitman's loss when his grist and feed mill burned, we stated that the loss was several thousand dollars. Mr. Whitman states that the loss was \$1,000 and we gladly make this correction.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. English and son, Burt, and Mrs. Jennie English spent Monday in Montgomery.

Mrs. Rommie Harwell had as her guest last week her sister-in-law, Mrs. McCurdy, of Flaton.

GRAND JURY QUILTS  
AFTER RETURNING  
TWENTY-SIX BILLS

The grand jury in session here last week returned 26 indictments, 14 being for felonies and 12 for misdemeanors. The body investigated 51 presentments before adjournment Wednesday afternoon.

In printing the names of the grand jurors last week, The Clipper made a mistake in saying that J. O. Bagerton was foreman of the jury, and we gladly make this correction.

Below is the complete report of the grand jury:

In the Circuit Court of Coffee County, Alabama, Elba Division.

HON. W. L. PARKS,  
Judge of said Court.

We, the Grand Jury for the Elba Division of Coffee County, Alabama, beg leave to submit this as our final report.

We have investigated 51 presentments, and as a result hereby return 26 indictments, there being 14 felonies and 12 misdemeanors.

Our committees called at the jail and found same under confinement, and as a result, it will be in splendid condition. And the Courthouse is being painted, and the Courthouse and wish to commend the Commissioners Court for this. An examination of the books of the various County Officials of this Division discloses that they are neat and accurately kept, and the Bonds of the various Officers are adequate and properly secured.

We wish to thank your Honor for your wonderful charge which you gave us in performance of our work. And Mr. E. L. Harper, Deputies for the service of our papers and needs of the Grand Jury. And we especially thank the able Solicitor, Mr. Huey, for the official performance of his assistance to us.

And now having completed the work assigned to us, we ask to be recessed, pending the further orders of this Court.

Respectfully submitted,

Elba, Ala.  
March 29, 1939.  
Foreman.

JEAN RHODES HOSTESS TO  
HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC CLUB

The Elba High School Music Club met Wednesday, March 29, with Jean Rhodes and Carolyn Russ acting as hostesses, in the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. T. Rhodes. The home was beautifully decorated in spring flowers. After the business was discussed, the following program was rendered:

A Cycle of Songs—Marjorie Brunson.

Nautalia (Guyon)—Marjorie Murphree.

La Ballerina (Rodgers)—Sylvia Towell.

Impatience (Heller)—Neil English.

Song of Triumph (Mendelssohn)—Jeanne Brunson.

During the social hour, the hostesses served a delicious salad plate.

After the message, Rev. Langston explained his work in the interest of the superannuate cause and an offering was made. A special offering will be made on Mother's Day for the cause.

Mr. and Mrs. Kershal Hayes of New Brodton have come to Elba to make their home and are residing in an apartment in the home of Miss Mabel Brunson on Buford Street.

F. H. A. MEETS AND HAS  
INTERESTING PROGRAM

The Elba F. H. A. met last Thursday in the High School Auditorium. After a business session, Martha Frances Dowling gave an interesting talk on parliamentary procedure. The club was dismissed after singing the club song.—Reporter.

MINNIE DORSEY APPOINTED  
SERGEANT AT BAYLOR

Kimmie Dorsey of Elba has recently been appointed a sergeant in the military unit at Baylor School in Chattanooga, Tenn. He is a member of the senior class, having entered Baylor in 1937, and is a member of the archery team. His many friends in Elba will be greatly pleased to hear of his appointment.

Mrs. Annie Waters of Montgomery spent the week-end in Elba with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, and Mrs. Paul Vaughn and little son, Donald Eugene, were visitors to Dothan Monday.

INCREASE IS NOTED  
IN ATTENDANCE AT  
CHURCH SERVICES

An increase in attendance at all services is reported by the churches of Elba, now observing a "Church Loyalty Campaign." The campaign opened on March 20th and will continue through June 4. Calendars announcing sermon subjects for both the morning and evening hours have been distributed to all church members, together with letters about the purpose of the campaign and attendance cards which are to be used by members at every service attended.

While attendance has shown some increase, officials and pastors are not getting the cooperation from the membership that was hoped for. There are hundreds of church members within sound of the church bells who do not attend any of the services.

The church is the greatest institution in the city. If there were no churches here, the majority of citizens now claiming this as their home would move out to a community where churches were located. Still these hundreds fail to take advantage of the wonderful privilege that is offered them every Sunday of worshipping in one of the city's churches.

Pastors, officials and the regular attendants would like to have every church member present every service. You will always find a warm welcome at YOUR church. Won't you make a special effort to attend next Sunday? It will do you good.

STATE'S DEATHS DECREASE;  
INCREASE IN POPULATION

In spite of an increase estimated at about 32,000 in the State's population, 1,118 fewer people died in Alabama last year than in 1937, according to provisional figures prepared by the Bureau of Vital Statistics of the State Department of Health, Montgomery.

These figures show that Alabama deaths reported last year totaled only 29,967, as compared with a 1937 total of 31,085. Last year's total was described as lower than the totals for 1928, 1929, 1930, and 1936. Nearly 80 per cent of the decrease last year, as compared with 1937, was said to have been among the negroes of the State.

REV. LANGSTON HERE

Rev. O. D. Langston of Auburn, executive secretary of Superannuate Endowment of Alabama Methodist Conference, was a visitor to Elba Sunday and Monday. He filled the pulpit at the Methodist Church Sunday evening, bringing an able and inspiring message to the congregation.

After the message, Rev. Langston explained his work in the interest of the superannuate cause and an offering was made. A special offering will be made on Mother's Day for the cause.

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Maybe You're To Blame

A bad bump bursting a tire—caused from insufficient air pressure in the tire.

A bearing burned out—caused from lack of oil.

Hot radiator—caused from lack of water.

We could go on, but the object we are trying to put over is that you get ALL these little attentions when you trade with us.

Try one of our High-Pressure Washing and Greasing jobs—we'll call for your car if you wish.

24-HOUR SERVICE.  
F. F. CLARK, Mgr. - PHONE 33. - ELBA, ALA.

**DORSEY SEZ:**

ARE YOU READY FOR SPRING DRIVING?

If you have not had your car "tuned up" for this fine spring weather, drive in at once and let our mechanics put your motor in condition for those trips you expect to make.

Our mechanics are expertly trained and your car will perform much better if we give it a thorough "tuning." If it is not convenient for you to drive in, just call us and we will send for your car and return it.

PHONE 146

Sales—CHEVROLET—Service

**Checking Accounts**

A Checking Account is probably the most generally useful of all forms of banking service. It is a practical necessity to all business organizations, and to many individuals for their personal requirements. We welcome checking accounts, whether for business or personal needs, and invite you to use our facilities for this convenience.

**ELBA EXCHANGE BANK**

J. F. BRUNSON, Pres. E. G. BRAGG, Vice-Pres.  
T. B. BRYAN, Cashier L. R. DEAL, Asst.-Cashier











## Live-at-Home Program Helps Marion County Farm Family to Outstanding Success

By L. O. BRACKEEN

By following a live-at-home program and by having something to sell every week Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Davis, Hamilton, Ala., R. 2, have made a success farming and home-making.

"We sell some butter and eggs every week," said Mr. Davis in explaining that the family of 7 children eat all the meat, dairy and poultry products they want and that the surplus is sold. They also have plenty of good home produced vegetables. Over 500 cans of fruits and vegetables are saved annually.

To encourage his tenants to grow their home supply of meat, Mr. Davis lets them take one of his sows when bred and feed her and pigs until the pigs are eight weeks old. At that time the sow and half the pigs are returned to Mr. Davis and the tenant keeps half the pigs.

Regarding Mr. Davis' success farming, Austin Ezelle, assistant county agent, says:

Mr. J. C. Davis, farmer, County AAA Committeeman, and agricultural history maker, moved from Fulton, Mississippi, to Marion County in 1916 and settled

a 53-acre tract of rolling, wooded hillsides in Reed Best, now Route 2, Hamilton. Without a great deal of encouragement from the few neighboring farmers as to the productivity of the land, Mr. and Mrs. Davis set out on the task of converting this plot of woodland into a farm, a home, a family, and a vital part of a good community.

The success that Mr. and Mrs. Davis have made in their venture can best be told by taking a look at them in 1938, 22 years after they started.

The farm, approved by the Marion County Soil Conservation Association as a Unit Test Demonstration Farm in 1935, has grown in acreage from the original 53 to 319 acres. On 67 acres Mr. Davis in 1938 produced an average of 25 bushels of hay per acre. On 22 acres he produced an average of 350 pounds of lint cotton per acre, and on 15 acres of soybean hay he produced 1,950 pounds of hay per acre. Mr. Davis has started demonstrations with kudzu and lespedeza sericea in an effort to produce a larger quantity of better quality hay at a lower cost. He cut 3,000 pounds of hay from three-fourths



The two scenes above show why Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Davis never have to buy meat. Mr. Davis is shown at left admiring nine of his fine hogs just after feeding time. At right Mr. and Mrs. Davis are pictured with daughter, Mary Sue, cutting a fine piece of pork from some of the fine shoulders and other cuts of meat which are cured on the farm near Hamilton.

acre lespedeza sericea at one cutting in 1938 and harvested 125 pounds of seed from the same field. The home centered around the original site until the summer of 1938 when a new seven-room house and a large roomy barn were built at a more favorable location and the family moved into it.

The family consists of seven children, one of whom has finished high school and is now married, another who has finished high school and is now attending college, two in high school, two in public school and one too young to attend school. They are: Annie Rae, Delion, Maudie Mae, Ozelle, Mildred, James and Mary Sue.

The community is known as the Davis

Community, a name popularly used because of the progress that Mr. Davis and several of his brothers have made in the community. They helped build the community church and school. Mr. Davis gave much of the lumber for the projects.

Mr. Davis says that with the soil building and soil conserving programs and with the increase in cash income to the farmers in Marion County as a result of such programs, the agricultural outlook for the county is bright. Without such Federal government-sponsored programs things won't look so good for the farmer who tills land subject to great losses from soil erosion and whose farm products are subject to great fluctuations in market prices, he says.

To reclaim these idle acres and to fully stock each acre of woodland in order that it may produce to capacity is the purpose of a reforestation program. That there is definite need for a program designed to reclaim idle acres is shown by the fact that average cropland per person in Alabama is six acres as compared with 13 for states outside the South.

In brief, clear farm Mr. Page presents the following information concerning planting of trees:

Where to Plant: (1) Idle open fields not suited to profitable annual crops of good pasture. (2) Large opening in the woods where root competition is not too great.

Species to Plant: Preferably pines where conditions are suitable. Pines grow rapidly and cover worn out lands quickly, thus more readily checking erosion. Of the hardwoods black locust for fence post production and yellow poplar and ash on moist sites are desirable.

When to Plant: (1) Broad-leaved deciduous trees, November 15 to April 1. (2) Pines and other evergreens, winter and early spring.

Spacing: Usually 6 x 7 feet, requiring approximately 1,000 trees per acre. This will vary according to species, slope and degree of erosion. In reclaiming gullies, a closer spacing of 5 x 6 feet or less, requiring approximately 1,500 trees per acre, is advisable.

Site Preparation: On level land plow furrows or light beds seven feet apart except for longleaf pine, which should not be planted in furrows. On rolling land plow contour furrows seven feet apart. In each case furrows should be plowed several weeks before planting.

On areas too steep for plowing clear a circle two feet or more in diameter for each tree.

Mulch galled spots with woods litter, cane pomace, grain straw, or similar material several weeks before planting.

Care of Seedlings: Keep roots moist at all time. Seedlings will arrive well-

## DID YOU KNOW THAT . .

Newspapers are fine for washing windows. Use them wet for cleaning and dry for polishing. Use clear water.

Paraffin used for sealing jellies, preserves, etc., may be used repeatedly if it is heated and strained.

Children should be taken to the dentist for an examination as soon as they have all of their baby teeth.

Those farmers who have planted kudzu will profit. Not only will the crop halt erosion, build the soil, and provide a hay crop—payments for planting it have been increased this year from \$1.50 to \$6.00 per acre under the farm program.

Palestine has prohibited the importation of fresh meats, and has required sanitary certificates for imports of chilled and frozen meats.

At least surplus of one farm product is being reduced. Cold storage holdings of apples on February 1 were reported to be 20,585,000 bushels in this country. This is 22 per cent less than the amount on hand the same time a year ago.

What is believed to be the first dairy herd improvement association in this country that is sponsored by a milk marketing cooperative has been organized in Vermont.

The association is composed of about 25 farmers. Greater efficiency in milk production and improvement in milk marketing will go hand in hand, according to plans of the cooperative.

The new association is known as the First Farmers' Dairy Herd Improvement Association.

It is better to prevent than to try to cure a poultry disease.

Carrots retain more vitamin C when they are steamed for 20 minutes than when boiled for 15.

American women will spend 200 million dollars for 100 million hats this year, it is estimated.

The method of grinding corn meal that leaves most of the food value in the meal is called either "entire-grain," "old process," "water ground," or "stone ground."

Dried beef will keep better if stored in a covered glass jar in the refrigerator rather than wrapped in parchment or waxed paper.

Children are more apt to like helping with the family work if they are also permitted to help with the planning of the work.

One of the most important things you can do to protect and increase the yield on your farm is to preserve the native quail food plants and cover. Fence rows and idle corners in fields provide excellent shelter and food for game birds.

Poor land and poor livestock go together. Good land will produce good livestock.

The practice started 25 years ago of planting legumes with corn in an effort to build up the soil is one of the main reasons the South's corn yield remains so low. This practice has benefited the land to a slight extent and has produced some hay, but it caused loss in corn yield.

## PUT WOODS ON IDLE ACRES

Alabama Farmers Have More Than 1,000,000 Acres Of Cleared Land That Is Idle. Much of This Acreage Is Badly Eroded. It Should Be Put in Forest Crops, Says Extension Forester Page.

At Right Is a Clear Example of Wise and Unwise Land Use. At Top Is Hilly, Barren, Eroded Land. The Land at Bottom Is Productive and Erosionless Because It Has Been Planted to Trees.

A two-minute talk with Rufus H. Page, extension forester, is enough to convince anyone that Alabama needs a reforestation program.

Here are a few of the facts Forester Page would mention in discussing the need for development of forests in the state:

Alabama farmers have more than 1,000,000 acres of cleared land that is idle. Much of this acreage is badly eroded. On farms which have such land there are many additional acres of woodland badly cut over and burned to the point that there is only a sparse stand of growing timber.

To reclaim these idle acres and to fully stock each acre of woodland in order that it may produce to capacity is the purpose of a reforestation program.

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Mulch galled spots with woods litter, cane pomace, grain straw, or similar material several weeks before planting.

Care of Seedlings: Keep roots moist at all time. Seedlings will arrive well-

packed in damp moss or similar material. If trees are not planted shortly after arrival, they should be heeled-in in light, well-drained soil. Dig a trench, break bundles, spread trees in trench and cover roots and portion of the stem with dirt.

When ready to transplant trees, place in a bucket partly filled with thick, creamy mud. When planting remove one seedling at a time from this mixture so that roots at all times will be sufficiently moist.

Planting: Mattocks or grub hoes are suitable for use in heavy soils, and narrow spades or planting irons in light soils. Dig holes deep and sufficiently wide to take the roots in a natural position. If roots are extra long, prune. Plant the trees about the same depth as they grew in the nursery. Pack the soil firmly about the roots, especially in the bottom of the hole, and leave a little loose soil in upper part of hole. In gullied areas plant on silt beds and other favorable spots without regard to spacing.

Plant longleaf pine on the level, never in a furrow or hole. The land should be just above the ground level.

Fertilization: Fertilize each black locust plant with two to four ounces of complete fertilizer or an equivalent amount of barnyard manure. Mix fertilizer well into soil before planting.

Those farmers who desire information on Maintenance of Plantation and Survival and Growth are asked to write Mr. Page at Auburn and request material on these two subjects.

Crushes Corn for Feed

Dennis Burns, of Cullman, Rt. 1, has an excellent way to feed his mules in such manner as to make them shed early in the spring and do a full day's work throughout the crop season.

He feeds them a mixture of crushed corn and cottonseed meal plus hay at noon and night of each day. (He never feeds in the morning). Each animal gets about 15 pounds of the mixture, made by mixing 15 pounds of crushed ear corn and one pound of cottonseed meal plus hay. During the winter months he feeds each animal about nine pounds of the feed each night.

Mr. Burns also finds that it pays to feed his milk cows crushed corn, cottonseed hulls and meal. Each cow receives about 22 pounds per day of a feed made by mixing 200 pounds of cottonseed hulls, 100 pounds of cottonseed meal and 100 pounds of crushed whole ear corn.



## Farmers' Thoughts Turn To Pastures

In the early spring farmers' thoughts turn to pastures.

It is at this season of the year that feed shortages usually occur—the need for green, succulent feed is realized. Too, about this time of year farmers become pasture conscious because they have learned that good pastures provide the most economical feed that a farm can produce.

But pastures make one contribution that's just as worthwhile as the feed they produce. Good pastures conserve both soil and water.

"The development of good, permanent pastures is being encouraged as one phase of the erosion control program in Alabama," says S. R. Doughty, extension soil conservationist. "In every experiment conducted throughout the country, in which soil and water losses have been measured, the value of pastures has been seen. Yet pasture lands include some of the most neglected areas on Alabama farms."

That neglect of rich, profitable pastures is bringing gradual but certain poverty to the state is realized. Pastures become non-productive and less able to resist erosion due to water loss, depleted fertility in the soil, overgrazing of thinly covered areas, and heavy infestations of weeds and sprouts. When erosion starts, points out Mr. Doughty, the loss of soil and water permits further devastation of the sod cover.

"Many cultivated fields become so gullied and depleted of top soil by erosion that they are rendered unprofitable," he states. "When this point is reached fields are frequently devoted to pastures. Yet these fields are so poorly managed that the pasture plants

fight a losing battle in restoring a natural cover and erosion continues."

If pastures are to conserve soil fertility and moisture they must be treated as a crop. Most pastures, for instance, may be made more productive and thus make for reduced erosion if they are properly fertilized. Others may require additional seeding. Also, pastures must be mowed to control weeds.

Reducing erosion by the control of runoff water on slopes has long been a problem, points out Mr. Doughty. "More than 100 years ago Thomas Jefferson found that contour furrows conserved water and that this additional water could be retained for the benefit of crops. This method has been widely used in Alabama on cultivated fields."

In speaking of contour furrows the extension soil conservationist said that they are being widely used on cultivated fields in Alabama. More recently it has been applied to sloping pasture land and is being tested in the demonstration and camp areas of the Soil Conservation Service.

These furrows are usually made by two or three back-furrows with a turn plow, leaving a bank of 8 to 10 inches wide to be broken out with a light disc harrow or scotter and scrape. This leaves some top soil in the bottom of the furrow and spreads the soil on the sloping sides. A system of these furrows, at intervals of six or eight feet, on a pasture slope reduces run off of water and thus provides more moisture for grass when completed. The furrows should be fertilized and seeded with a pasture mixture.

Those farmers who wish to obtain information on establishing pastures or improving their present ones are asked to consult their county agents.

Experiments of the U. S. Biological Survey and the University of Alaska have bred reindeer and caribou together, an animal 50 to 100 pounds heavier than the reindeer.



## Squealing Pig Saw America Long Before Ancestors Of People Living Here Now

Hardly less amazing than the parade of Hannibal's elephants over the Alps was the successful cross-country tour of De Soto's herd of pigs from the Everglades to the Ozarks, through a thousand wild and hostile miles of forest, prairie, mountain, flood, swamp, snow, and summer heat, which began 400 years ago this year.

The Spanish explorer arrived in Tampa Bay in 1539 with nine vessels, 600 or more soldiers, and 350 horses, but apparently only thirteen pigs, the latter being reserved for the colony he planned to establish on the Florida peninsula or beyond.

Columbus had brought cattle, hogs, sheep, and poultry to the West Indies on his second voyage (1493). Mexico, Peru, and other lands on the western continent itself had been conquered by the Spaniards. De Soto himself playing a prominent part in the struggle for the wealth of Peru. But Florida, the nearest point on the continent, remained practically a mystery. Hence De Soto was even made Governor of Cuba in order that he might use that island as a base of operations in conquering and colonizing Florida.

Heading northward from the Tampa region De Soto's expedition marched slowly onward in an amazing arc of zigzags that were to touch at least seven and perhaps eleven of our present southern states, traversing mountains and the great Mississippi river, before the weary survivors, riding in boats of their own wilderness manufacture, and clad principally in the skins of wild animals, were finally to reach safety in Mexico four years later.

At the start of the expedition in Florida and Georgia, apparently on into both the Carolinas, and seemingly over the mountains to somewhere near Chattanooga, the moving column must have been an amazing sight. First came the armored cavalry in its glittering splendor, behind limped the infantry, while somewhere between or around the two scampered a squealing, reluctant treasure of pork—the rapidly multiplying herd of hogs—and its herders. And from the hillsides and forests along the way peered savage eyes that had never before beheld horses, or pigs, or firearms, or white skins, and that sometimes visioned the rider and his horse together as a single shining animal.

Sometimes the party was well fed by friendly or frightened Indians; sometimes it was half-starved—one such occasion, seemingly somewhere in Georgia, finally compelling apparently the first dressing and serving of pork in the United States. That was in the year 1540. Even then each man was allowed only half a pound of meat per day, to sustain him until more grain, nuts, or roots were found; for in general the rapidly growing reserve of pork was still being saved for the colony that De Soto hoped eventually to found.

From the Chattanooga region the expedition apparently marched southwest into central Alabama; then northwestward across the state of Mississippi. In each of these sections a desperate battle was fought with the red men, whose teeming straw villages the Spaniards set afire in each case. In the end the invaders lost in the flames not only a collection of pearls, the only riches so

far obtainable, but also most of their ammunition, saddles, and clothing, and many horses, and all but 100 of their 500 hogs.

After a 30-day delay for the building of boats to cross the Mississippi, the expedition began a year of wandering in Arkansas, finally returning to the banks of the Mississippi with the plan of building ships to return to Cuba for reinforcements. Here De Soto died, however, and the hog herd, now increased to 700, was auctioned off among his men, who thus began to eat pork much more often.

De Soto's successor, Moscoso, at first abandoned the plan of a voyage by sea in favor of the supposedly easier land march to New Spain (Mexico). The summer was therefore spent in a westward trek which apparently reached halfway across northern Texas; but the approach of autumn on the seemingly limitless Texas plains sent them trading back to the Mississippi to begin building ships—using the shawls of the Indian women for sails, and turning into spikes and anchors their firearms, their captives' chains, and such bits and strappas as remained. The remaining hogs and most of the horses so far surviving were turned into meat for the voyage.

After a desperate 16-day battle with hostile river Indians in their much swifter canoes, and after six weeks of feeling their way around the Texas coast, 311 hairy beings clothed and shod in deerskin and claiming once to have been Spaniards reached the shelter and welcome of a Spanish settlement on the Panuco river near the site of modern Tampico.

### STATE'S GREAT NEED

(Continued from page 1)

shipped into Alabama during the year 1936, every dollar's worth of which could have been raised or processed in Alabama. This shows the urgent need of grading, packing and processing. It also shows that Alabama needs to produce more of the things it consumes and to consume more of the things it produces. Available cash markets for the products of Alabama farms need to be set up all over the state.

Alabama today is selling most of her products in the raw state, buying them back again as finished articles at ten times as much as she received for the raw product.

Alabama needs factories that will take the raw material in the location where it is produced, and using Alabama people, process and refine these products for consumer use.

It is a sad commentary on Alabama industry that the tin being made in the giant tin plate mill in the Birmingham area is being shipped out of Alabama to be returned filled with products of other states.

An increase of industry would bring about a fair balance of income and opportunity in agricultural and industrial pursuits and mean that more native young men and women would remain in Alabama, this state offering them



This cabinet, which can be utilized for storage of any number of clothing items, is an example of modern home conveniences which are making for improved farm living conditions. Notice the space for storage of suits and dresses, shoes, soiled clothes, shirts and waists, and various miscellaneous items.

### More Conveniences Are On Farm

## FARM LIVING CONDITIONS BETTER

Farm living conditions have improved. In spite of the ups and downs of farm incomes, life on the farm has become more livable. The farm family's opportunity to improve its cultural and social life has been multiplied many times in recent years.

The long-sought-for improvement in living conditions in rural areas has come, believes Miss Nell Pickens, extension home management specialist, largely through improved transportation and communication facilities.

Better roads, she says, are an invitation to more general ownership of automobiles and, therefore, greater travel. The proportion of car-owning farm families outstrips that of city dwellers.

Extension of electric lines is bringing light and energy to an increasing number of farm homes. Electricity is now used in 18 per cent of all homes in rural sections as compared with 13 per cent in 1930.

equal opportunity to that which they can find elsewhere.

Agriculture and industry in Alabama are interdependent—when one prospers the other prospers also. Each furnishes a market and an outlet for the products of the other. Solution of Alabama's problems and lifting the low income of her citizens calls for the closest cooperation between agriculture and industry in Alabama.

Improvement in rural mail delivery, telephone service and increased radio ownership have all played important roles in making farm living conditions more attractive.

At the present time about three-fifths of all farm families have radios. In a survey made by the Joint Committee on Radio Research, 59 per cent of all farm families owned radios on January 1, 1939. Ownership of radios among rural families will continue to increase, believes Miss Pickens.

Number of farm-owned telephones have not increased as rapidly as some of the other modern conveniences. There has been little change in the number since 1930.

Ways of spending among farm families are being altered by these new ways of living, Miss Pickens points out. The farm family's income is both in the form of money and of farm products used by the family. "Since we live in an economy in which money is increasingly important there must be a conversion of enough of the farm products into money to meet the family's needs and leave some margin for life's extras if living conditions on the farm continue to improve," she adds.

A family's financial plan, followed by good management throughout the year, is one of the best investments farm families can make in order to secure additional comforts and conveniences.

### Start This Three-Year Plan For

## IMPROVEMENT OF HOME

In an effort to coordinate the work of all those interested in the improvement of home grounds, a three-year home grounds improvement program has been launched by Homer Fisher, extension landscape gardener.

Designed to beautify the grounds of farm home owners over the state, already 58 counties are cooperating in the work. In each of the counties the work is guided by committees whose memberships include county agents, home agents and others.

The program is divided into three separate divisions. One year is required for work on each division.

Starting with the plan of work for the first year, the program is gradually accelerated until by the end of the three years the beautification work is completed. Mr. Fisher has so planned the program as to make it possible for a farm family to cooperate in the work at the lowest possible cost. In fact, first year costs amount to practically nothing.

Here's the first year plan:

1. Clean up the front yard, move flower beds, shrub plantings, woodpiles, farm machinery, and similar things out of the front yard.

2. Move flower beds to the side or rear of the house.

3. Move woodpile to the rear of the house and the machinery to the barnyard.

4. Build walks and drives. Locate drive to one side of the house. Walks may often run from drive to front or side entrance.

5. Start developing a lawn in the front

yard. Make a plan, at least a sketch, of the entire grounds, including the barn, barnyard, and other outbuildings and areas.

6. Locate new barns or other new outbuildings to the rear of the house.

7. If possible, move any existing buildings that are in front of the house.

8. Remove all unused buildings or shacks not needed.

9. Begin work during the second year by checking up on the first year's activities. If any part of the first year's work has not been done make that the first order of business on the second year program.

10. Study your plan. Be sure that it shows what you want. Also, be sure that it includes the entire home area; that is, the yard area around the house, the barnyard and outbuildings, vegetable garden, poultry yard, etc.

11. Underpin the house. Use brick, stone, lattice, boards, or any similar material available.

12. Paint the house. For unpainted houses this is without a doubt one of the most important things to be done.

13. Paint or stain barns and other outbuildings, tenant houses, and wooden fences and gates.

14. Plant shrubs. Start plantings to screen (1) the work yard to the rear or side of the house, (2) the wood yard, (3) outbuildings, and (4) objectionable views. Also start the foundation planting. Don't overplant. Use medium to large plants at the corners of the house and porch; use medium to low plants beside the steps, windows, and in similar locations. Locate all plants at least three feet from the house and space

leg and width around the top as well as to absorb strain caused by bending the knees.

15. Choose hose suitable for the wear you expect to give them—45 to 51 gauge hose will wear longer. Three and four thread hose stand up under hard wear. The good-looking, sheer two-thread hose is very fragile and should be used only for dress wear if the hose-dry bill is to be considered.

### Says Uncle Jim--

Silage can be fed to the dairy herd, beef herd, growing heifers, and, in a limited amount, to workstock.

As a man careth for the land, so the land careth for him.

Spring time, plowing time—hope rekindled for the man on the land.

The smell of fresh turned earth is perfume to him who loves the land.

With the approach of another breeding season, farmers should remember that the use of scrub sires is costing them millions annually.

The use of limestone and phosphate and growing grasses and legumes in a rotation is one of the most effective and profitable erosion control measures at the farmer's command.

By using selected males in the breeding pens, the weight of the pullet's eggs may be increased.



The pictures above show views of the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Callaway, near Wadley in Tallapoosa County, before and after working over the house and home grounds under a program similar to the new three-year improvement program. The cost of this development, not including paint for the house, was less than one dollar.

them three feet or more apart.

16. Tree planting. Plant trees to the rear of the house for shade, background and screening. Peach, pear, apple, and similar trees may be planted in the back yard area. For shade and for framing the house, plant trees to the side and

slightly to the front.

17. Fences and mail boxes. Continue to work on the fences, particularly if they are in front of the house. Have all fence posts the same height. Build and paint a good support for the mail box.

18. Continue the roadside cleanup.

### This Fact Interests Housewives

## DRIED FRUITS ARE RICH IN MINERALS

Here's a fact that should interest many housewives who have difficulty in obtaining fresh fruits:

Weight for weight, dried fruits outshine the corresponding fresh fruits in minerals—especially iron.

Dried apricots are very rich in iron; dates, figs, prunes and raisins also supply it. Figs are a good source of calcium.

Dried fruits are also rich in certain vitamins. Prunes are an excellent source of vitamin A, and also supply vitamin C. Dates furnish both vitamin A and vitamin B. Dried apricots and yellow peaches retain part of their original store of vitamin A, while figs supply vitamins B and C. Lemon juice added to prunes supplies vitamin C which dried fruits lack.

Many of the light-colored fruits, such as apricots, peaches, pears, white figs, and some of the paler raisin-grapes, are exposed to sulfur fumes before drying. This process helps retain color and ward off insects and decay. The small quantity of sulfur dioxide that remains in the fruit is not considered harmful.

Following are some suggestions on the way to cook different dried fruits:

Prunes—Wash carefully in hot water; drop into boiling water and leave for an hour to plump up. Simmer half an hour in the same water. Add sugar if desired during the last few minutes of

cooking. Save flavor by using the soaking water for cooking.

Apricots—most dried apricots need no soaking. Start cooking in boiling water. Simmer 30 minutes.

Figs—start in cold water. Simmer 20 to 30 minutes until tender.

Peaches—Soak in cold water 20 minutes and cook 15 to 30 minutes.

### Livestock Pays--

In 1937 W. J. Smith, of Center, Rt. 1, bought an 80-acre farm which was run down and in poor condition. During the summer of that year he had most of the farm terraced, and a joint soil conservation and livestock program was launched.

The work paid big dividends for Mr. Smith. During the past year he made approximately \$300 from the sale of hogs, \$40 from crimson clover seed, besides a good profit from cotton.

Very enthusiastic about livestock, Mr. Smith states that he believes livestock farming is the salvation of the Southeast. He keeps three brood sows which supply a good number of pigs the Cherokee County farmer sells for \$6 and \$7 each. At present he has more orders for pigs than he can supply. In addition, Mr. Smith has six heifers which he is growing out to sell as milk cows.



## Crotalaria Seed Grown by Baldwin Farmers

Crotalaria growers of Baldwin County, who were well ahead of all others in the state in production of the crop last year, raised from 1,500,000 to 2,000,000 pounds of seed in 1938, E. E. Hale, county agent, said this week.

An estimated 5,000 acres was planted to the legume last year and growers reported success in building soil fertility through crotalaria plantings. In an experiment at the Fairhope station 53 bushels of corn to the acre were produced on unfertilized soil that had been previously sown to crotalaria the winter before.

Crotalaria has by far the most vigorous growth of any legume in the section, stated Mr. Hale, who said it was further advantageous in that it choked the growth of weeds and grass.

Several farmers in South Baldwin and particularly Elberta, have been experimenting with the crop after importing seed from Florida. Among the promoters of the crop are Gust Reimer and sons of Elberta and William Sherman of Summerdale.

Last year Mr. Reimer planted 500 acres in the legume and has recently put in re-fertilizing and seedling equipment in order to produce top grade seed for the market. One farmer, lacking \$1,400 of paying a fertilizer bill on the Irish potato crop, is said to have produced the necessary money through selling crotalaria seed.

Usually the crop does not need re-seeding and replants itself from year to year. It is planted in corn middle at the last cultivation at the rate of 20 pounds of seed per acre and seed are usually harvested in November.

As only one variety is edible for hay or forage, crotalaria has a soil-building value only, but in that field it is unsurpassed, believe many Baldwin farmers. Those not raising the crop for seed turn under the heavy legume growth, often eight feet high, to add humus to the soil. Spectabalis is conceded to be the best soil-building variety and of this strain early, medium and late-producing seed have been developed.

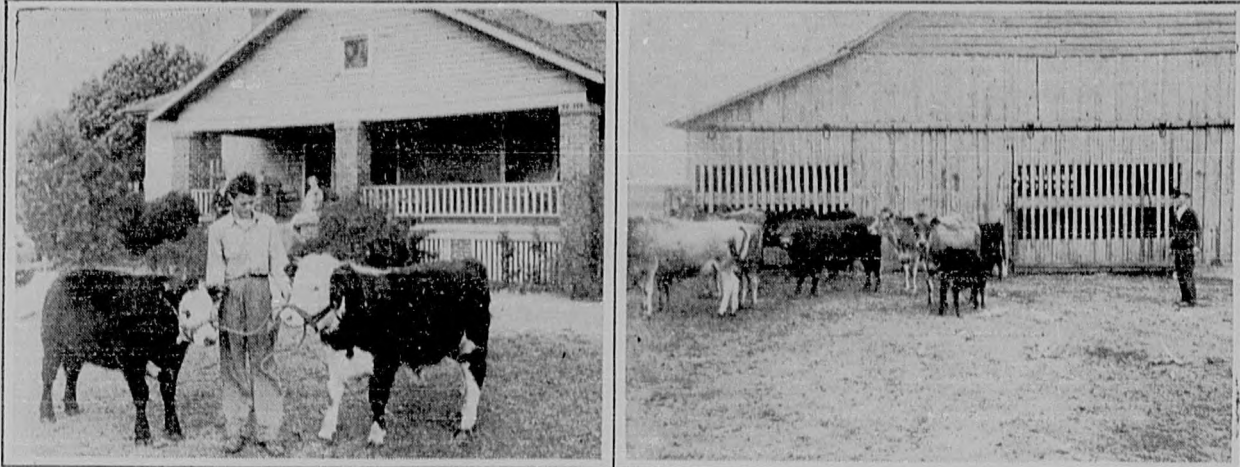
## Encourage Hog Raising

At least two Alabama farmers have found a satisfactory way to encourage both landowner and tenant to grow hogs for home use and for sale. They are Aaron Fleming, master farmer of Huntsville, Rt. 4, and J. G. Davis, Hamilton, Rt. 2.

Here is how they do it: when the sows are bred the landowner lets the tenant take the sow and feed her until the pigs are eight weeks old. The sow and half the pigs are then returned to the owner and the tenant keeps the other half of the pigs to raise and use as he desires.

A fine method of encouraging livestock raising!

Have you always thought that sunflowers face the sun? They do not. Sunflowers face all points of the compass. Even blossoms on the same stalk may face different directions.



The livestock program started on the Hatcher farm near Hartford is providing a good supplementary income for cotton and peanut farming. At left is pictured Hartwell Hatcher, who is helping his father to develop high quality livestock. He is shown with two of his prize calves. Mr. W. M. Hatcher is shown at right with a number of the fine cows which he has raised from a native foundation stock. In addition to cattle the Hatchers have a big herd of hogs.

## Diversification Enriches Hartford Farmer

One of Alabama's most successful farmers, M. M. Hatcher, has obtained the "good things of life" from a diversified farming program in a section of the state where cotton has for years been the one crop for most farmers.

On a farm near Hartford in Geneva County he is making an outstanding record by turning to beef cows, peanuts and hogs to supplement his income from cotton. It was several years ago that Mr. Hatcher realized that a large part of his 343 acre farm should be taken out of cotton cultivation and put in more profitable farming pursuits. So with his young son, Hartwell, 16, he set about to build up a livestock enterprise.

Today only 60 acres of the farm are in cotton. The remaining acreage is divided in the following manner: 30 acres are in market peanuts; 15 acres are in soybeans, pastured by hogs; 30 acres are in solid peanuts, pastured by hogs; 120 acres are in corn, velvet beans and peanuts, the corn being harvested, the beans and peanuts staying on the ground and grazed by hogs and cows. Balance of the cultivated acreage, 10, is planted to miscellaneous crops, such as sweet potatoes, truck crops, watermelons, cane for syrup. About 25 acres are in woods pastures.

With a fine basic stock of hogs and several native cows, Mr. Hatcher and Hartwell launched the livestock project which is now paying good dividends. Through use of a purebred black Angus bull the cattle herd is being gradually improved and improved. In the past 12 months over \$1,000 worth of hogs have been sold, while well over \$300 worth of cattle have been marketed. This practically \$1,400 income from livestock in the past year, of course, has been supplemented considerably by cotton and peanuts raised for market.

Mr. Hatcher turns about 100 head of hogs on soybeans June 1, in addition to cutting early corn for their feed. When the pigs are removed from soybeans, they are placed on corn interplanted with soybeans about July 15 and left for six weeks. On September 1 the hogs are turned on runner peanuts, and then marketed as soon as they reach tops. Mr. Hatcher then permits his brood sows and pigs the run of the fields during the late fall and winter. Later they are turned on oats which have been planted for winter and early spring grazing. When complete this program has provided year-round grazing for the hogs.

While hogs have been grown on the Hatcher farm for several years, beef cows are a new enterprise. At present there are 22 head of cows and calves with one purebred Angus bull on the farm. Hartwell has taken an unusual amount of interest in cattle and through his membership in the Hartford FFA and 4-H clubs has learned much about cattle projects. He fattened several fine calves for the Tri-States Fat Stock Show and Sale held in Dothan recently, his being among the most outstanding shown at the event. In recent years Hartwell has won several of the biggest awards at the show.

Soon after going into livestock farming Mr. Hatcher realized that if his new enterprise was to be profitable he would have to produce all his feed needs. This sound reasoning accounts for the many acres in pasture crops for both cows and hogs. In addition, always he has produced most of the home food needs on the farm. With Mrs. Hatcher's help he has one of the finest vegetable gardens to be found anywhere. The Hatcher tenants have always been encouraged

to produce their own garden food, too. Of course, with such a large supply of pork and beef on the farm, there's always plenty of meat for the home table. There's no such thing as a soil erosion control problem on the farm. By intelligent, up-to-the-minute farming practices, Mr. Hatcher has kept much of the original fertility of the soil. The farm is well terraced, and a year round conservation program is in effect.

That the 343-acre farm has produced a good living for the Hatcher family is a well known fact in Geneva County. With a large house, barn, modern water system, telephone and power for home and farm use, the home site presents an attractive picture.

All of the eight children are well educated. Three of them, Reginald, Dorothy and Harold, hold their college degrees. Three of the girls, Leonora, Rosamond, and Evelyn, have finished high school and have taken business courses. The other two, Hartwell and Margaret, are now in high school, and plan to continue their education after receiving their diplomas.

## Here's A Story of Good Returns

### WILCOX FARMERS GROW HAY CROPS

Under the leadership of E. H. Kelley and F. C. Turner, county agent and assistant agent respectively, Wilcox County farmers are making great strides in growing perennial hay crops.

Wilcox farmers recently made a co-operative purchase of nearly 200,000 Kudzu crowns to set out for the production of legume hay, control of soil erosion and as a temporary grazing crop.

Mr. Leslie Rutherford, who has one of the largest Kudzu fields in southwest Alabama, states that he gets around two tons of good kudzu hay to the acre every year. His hay is not only palatable but is even more nutritious than alfalfa. "This added to the fact that it completely controls soil erosion makes it one of the most valuable plants that we can grow," says County Agent Kelley. The Wilcox farm agent recommends that it be grown on any of the soils in Wilcox County except the Sumter and Houston soils of the Black Belt.

Many farmers of the section believe that kudzu can and will prove valuable

## Gives Seeds to Tenants

Oscar Duke, of Florence, has developed a unique way of getting his tenants to grow plenty of garden vegetables for home use.

He carries garden seed to his three tenants and encourages them to plant the seed in their gardens. Mr. Duke is more than repaid when the tenants fill his car with vegetables each time he visits them. "These tenants have more to eat than anybody I know of," comments A. H. Barnett, county agent.

Mr. Duke also lets the tenants cut cross-ties and poles for sale on his farm. When the ties and poles are sold the tenant gets one-third of their sale price while Mr. Duke gets the other two-thirds. This has proved satisfactory to both parties, he says.

## INCREASE FISH YIELD WITH 6-8-4

Some years ago the Alabama Experiment Station found that for the Alabama farmer to get the maximum yield of cotton he should use 600 pounds of 6-8-4 fertilizer.

Today the Alabama Experiment Station knows that 6-8-4 is the best known fertilizer for the maximum production of fish.

Tests conducted in Alabama during the last four years by H. S. Swingle, fish culturist of the station, have shown that as much as 580 pounds of fish per acre of pond can be produced by proper fertilization. This amount of fish means more meat, aside from the sport of catching them, than the average beef cattle or hog producer can grow on the same area of land.

The fertilization of fish ponds while it is a new thing, is comparatively simple. The fertilizers feed small plants which in turn furnish food for the fish. These plants are also eaten by insects, tadpoles, crawfish and other small animals which in turn are eaten by the fish.

An unfertilized pond will produce from 100 to 200 pounds of fish per acre. With the same stocking of bream, bass or crappie a properly fertilized pond will produce around 350 to 500 pounds of fish per acre.

In one test, Mr. Swingle obtained 140 pounds of fish in one year from an unfertilized pond of one acre. From a fertilized pond of the same area he obtained 580 pounds of fish or more than four times the unfertilized pond.

Bream taken from Lake Martin in Tallapoosa County weighed about 2 ounces at five years of age because of the lack of food. Bream in a properly stocked and properly fertilized pond will reach a weight of four ounces (twice as much as the 5-year-old bream) in 18 months.

Mr. Swingle and Dr. E. V. Smith, associate biologist, who is assisting in the fish culture work, have conducted tests using various commercial fertilizers, cottonseed meal, stable manure, and commercial mixed fertilizers. Of these, either 6-8-4 or a mixture of three parts cottonseed meal and one part superphosphate have been found to bring best results. However, since the meal and superphosphate are more expensive than the 6-8-4 the latter is recommended.

Fertilizer is applied to the pond in late April or early May as soon as the spring rains have stopped. The 6-8-4 is used at the rate of 500-800 pounds per acre. The first application is 300 pounds plus 20 pounds nitrate of soda and this is followed by 100-pound applications at monthly intervals. With each 100-pound application of 6-8-4 10 pounds of nitrate of soda are added.

The fertilizer is applied by boat or by walking along edge and throwing it out toward the center of the pond. No attempt is made to completely cover the pond as wave action will gradually spread it over the entire pond; but care is taken not to apply any near the edge as this will promote weed growth.

Stocking of the pond should take place from September to January. An acre of fertilized pond should be stocked with a maximum of 1500 bream, 200 bass or crappie, and at least 100 Gam-



These pictures show work in progress at the Auburn fish experiment ponds and results of proper fertilization. At top, right, are shown a group of helpers draining a pond and counting the fish. The picture at top, left, shows results of various degrees of stocking. The fish at top shows growth in six months in a pond stocked with 5,500 fish per acre. Directly beneath is a sample of fish taken from the same pond two and one-half years later, the fish growing little during that time due to over-stocking. However, the third fish in line taken from a pond stocked with 3,200 fish per acre and the fish at bottom taken from a pond stocked with 1,500 per acre, tell a different story due to the fact that ponds were more nearly correctly stocked. The fine bream, weighing about one pound, is one of the prize fish taken from a properly fertilized and stocked pond. H. S. Swingle and E. V. Smith are shown at bottom, left, weighing and counting fish.

## These Twin Evils Go Together

### POOR LAND AND POOR LIVESTOCK

In a recent interview Dr. R. S. Suggs, extension animal husbandman, had a number of questions on his mind. A few of the interrogations ran something like this:

Have you ever seen good livestock on farms in a section of the country noted for its poor and eroded soils?

Can a man who is living on such land compete with his neighbor who has fertile land that produces high yields and, hence, low-cost feeds?

Does livestock make the soil fertile or does the fertile soil make good quality livestock?

Most any farmer who thinks over these questions knows the proper answers. Of course, observation is enough to convince anyone that the better quality livestock are found on farms and in sections of the country which have fertile soil.

Too, it follows that a man who attempts to farm poor, worn-out land cannot successfully compete with his neighbor who has fertile soil. An abundance of cheap home-grown feed is the first essential in the economical production

of good quality livestock. Sorry land will not produce inexpensive home-grown food. On poor land crops are uncertain, yields per acre are low; hence, the cost of production is high.

However, every farmer who wishes to grow livestock cannot live on rich soil. Such a large area of Alabama has eroded, wasted land that there are not enough fertile acres for all the livestock farmers. But the situation is not hopeless. There's plenty that can be done to put poor land in condition for profitable livestock farming.

It is obvious, believes Dr. Suggs, that the first step in a sound and economical livestock program for a farm or section where there is eroded land is to adopt soil-building and soil conserving practices. Building up poor, severely washed land is often a long and expensive task, but it will pay in the long run in practical methods are used.

After building up the soil (and production of livestock is a good way to build it) the farmer is in the position to profitably raise livestock. The pro-

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